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Mexico

Livestock and Products

Mexico BSE Update (Fifth Edition)

2004

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Report Highlights:

Mexico has again modified its BSE ban to allow imports of beef trimmings, lips, tongue, kidneys, veal, diaphragm, heart, and liver. Import requirements for live sheep for slaughter have also been established.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

Mexico Expands List of Beef Products Eligible for Importation

On April 5, 2004, Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) informed USDA that it would allow imports of veal, tongue, heart, kidneys, lips, trimmings, and diaphragm from cattle under 30 months of age. SAGARPA also announced that imports of liver and protein-free tallow not apt for human consumption (note: this product was approved previously) from cattle of any age would be permitted. SAGARPA announced that it would allow imports of boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age on March 3, 2004.

Sheep Ban Also Easing

In addition, SAGARPA has established import requirements for live sheep and is expected to establish requirements for sheep meat within a few days. It's not yet clear when SAGARPA will authorize imports of sheep heads.

The BSE Banned List

The following products are currently banned by SAGARPA.

- Live cattle
- Bone-in meat
- Boneless meat from cattle 30 months of age or older
- Bovine offal and viscera other than those currently authorized
- *Bovine meat preparations
- Products derived from non-protein-free tallow
- Protein-free tallow fit for human consumption
- Gelatin and collagen prepared from bone
- Ruminant meal
- **Meat from small ruminants (added since the initial ban)
- **Live sheep for breeding (added since the initial ban)

*While bovine meat preparations are currently banned. SAGARPA will consider establishing import requirements for processed beef preparations if the products do not differ substantially from the raw products that are currently authorized. For example, a company that produces a marinated or breaded boneless beef product can submit a request to have a set of import requirements established. Once established, the requirements will be available for any company to use. Companies should work with their importers and be prepared to provide documentation about their product composition and expect to wait a few weeks for approval.

**A lifting of this ban is expected soon.

Products Exempt from the BSE Ban

The following products are exempt from the BSE ban.

- Boneless beef from cattle under 30 months of age
- Veal de-boned or bone-in
- Hearts, kidneys, tongue and lips from cattle under 30 months of age
- Diaphragm and trimmings from cattle under 30 months of age
- Liver
- Milk
- Dairy products
- Semen

Embryos
Protein-free tallow not fit for human consumption
Dicalcium phosphate (DCP)
Skins and hides
Gelatin and collagen obtained from hides and skins
*Pet Food (see MX4040 for more details)

*The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has submitted a request to SAGARPA to modify some of the more onerous requirements for pet food.

Secretariat of Health Has Its Own Ban

A listing of the Secretariat of Health's banned products of bovine origin follows:

Hormones
Insulin
Enzymes for digestive therapy
Gel capsules made from cartilage or bone
Sutures
Laboratory growth media
Bile extracts
Gelatin (conflict with SAGARPA)
Any products regulated by the Secretariat of Health made from Specified Risk Materials
Food supplements
Blood serum
Common ingredients in beauty products
Dehydrated broth (subject to prior notice)
Instant soups (subject to prior notice)